

***Remarks***

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-23 are pending in the application, with 1, 3, and 23 being the independent claims.

The amendments to the specification correct errors in the Japanese specification, which are apparent when read in light of the whole context of the translated English specification.

The claims are amended to remove improper multiple dependencies.

These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

***Conclusion***

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested. Applicants believe the present application is in condition for allowance.

NEMOTO *et al.*  
Appl. No. *To be assigned*  
(U.S. Nat'l Phase of PCT/JP04/011308, filed July 30, 2004)

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

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